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### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and reexamination of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The title has been changed. Claims 1-8 have been amended. Claims 1-8 remain pending. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended are requested.

The Examiner required a new title. The title has been changed. It is submitted that the title is descriptive.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by MEHNEY.

Mehney discloses a vehicle occupant weight sensor apparatus which has four identical plate sensor assemblies. Each assembly has first and second strain gauges 81, 82 fixed above a flexible portion and third and fourth strain gauges 83, 84 fixed below. The strain gauges for each assembly are connected electrically in a Wheatstone bridge which develops an output. The outputs are added together in a summing amplifier 94.

Claim 1 is directed to a method wherein a first output from the first weight detecting unit is obtained. Also, a second output from a different second weight detecting unit is obtained. The second output changes inversely at a rate similar to the rate at which the first output changes. This is because the second weight detecting unit provides a set of strain resistors on an opposite side of the sensor plate as the first weight detecting unit. Consequently, when the weight of the occupant is calculated, the output of one of the first and second weight detecting units is inverted with respect to the other before they are added together. Mehney does not disclose a method "calculating the weight of the occupant based on a value obtained by inverting the output from one of the first and second weight detecting units and adding the inverted output to the output from the other weight detecting unit." The assemblies of Mehney are identical so there is no inverted output. As a consequence, claim 1 and the claims which depend from it are not anticipated by Mehney.

The system of claim 3 requires first and second weight detecting units. The first detecting unit has a first set of strain resistors which are located on a first surface, while the second weight detecting unit has a second set of strain resistors which are located on a

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second surface. The first weight detecting unit is provided under inner edges of a seat with the strain resistors on the first surface being vertically on one side of a sensor plate, while the second detecting unit is provided under the outer edge of the seat with the second set of strain resistors being on a sensor plate on a side vertically opposite the location of the first set of strain resistors. Further, the system of claim 3 then requires "means for calculating the weight of the occupant based on a value obtained by inverting the output from one of the first and second weight detecting units and adding the inverted output to the output from the other weight detecting unit." Mehney does not disclose such calculating means and, therefore, cannot anticipate claim 3 and the claims which depend from it.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Allowance of claims 1-8 at an early date is solicited. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. 29,165, at (612)455-3802.



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